

# Scoop

THE LATEST TRENDS, SERVICES & PROMOTIONS

ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS

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## EU Regulates C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> Perfluorocarboxylic Acids (PFCA) under REACH

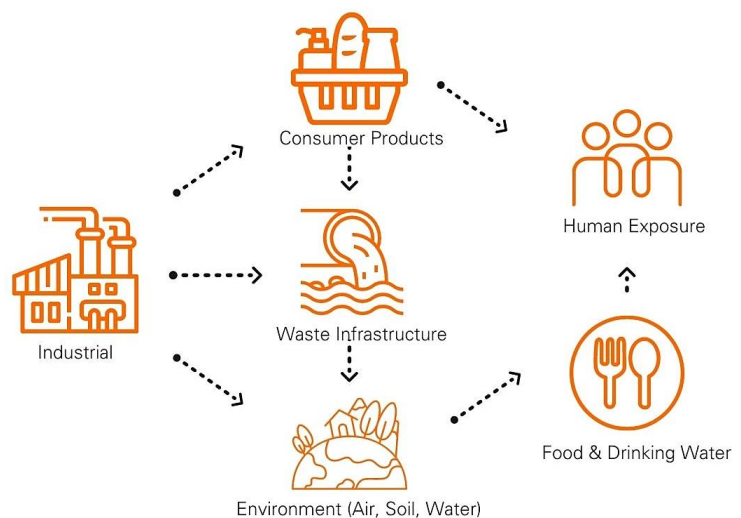


The EU has added C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> PFCA and C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> PFCA-related substances under ANNEX XVII of REACH. The new law will become effective on February 25, 2023.

In 2021, the European Commission published Commission [Regulation \(EU\) 2021/1297](#), updating [Entry 68](#) of Annex XVII, which restricts *perfluorocarboxylic acids containing 9 – 14 carbons in the chain (C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> PFCA), their salts and their related substances*.

Because of their unique physical and chemical properties, PFCA are widely used in the development of consumer products such as non-sticking, water- and oil-repellent materials in cookware. However, such fluorine-containing substances are persistent, bio-accumulative, and toxic.

If used persistently, not only will they continue to pollute the environment, but also cause serious and irreversible harm to human health.



The following C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> PFCAs are in the Candidate List of substances of very high concern (SVHCs):

- Perfluorononan-1-oic acid (PFNA) and its sodium and ammonium salts
- Nonadecafluorodecanoic acid (PFDA) and its sodium and ammonium salts
- Henicosafluoroundecanoic acid (PFUnDA)
- Tricosafluorododecanoic acid (FPDoDA)
- Pentacosfluorotridecanoic acid (PFTrDA)
- Heptacosfluorotetradecanoic acid (PFTDA)

Highlights of new entry 68 to Annex XVII of REACH in the new law are shown below:

Effective Date	Restriction Details
25 February 2023	1. Shall not be manufactured, or placed on the market as substances on their own
	2. Shall not be used in, or placed on the market in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) another substance, as a constituent;</li> <li>(b) a mixture;</li> <li>(c) an article,</li> </ul> except if the concentration in the substance, the mixture, or the article is <b>below 25 ppb for the sum of C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> PFCAs and their salts</b> or <b>260 ppb for the sum of C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> PFCA-related substances</b>
<b>Definitions:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linear and branched perfluorocarboxylic acids of the formula C<sub>n</sub>F<sub>2n+1</sub>-C(=O)OH where n = 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13 (C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> PFCAs), including their salts, and any combinations thereof;</li> <li>• Any C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> PFCA-related substance having a perfluoro group with the formula C<sub>n</sub>F<sub>2n+1</sub>- directly attached to another carbon atom, where n = 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, or 13, including their salts and any combinations thereof;</li> <li>• Any C<sub>9</sub>-C<sub>14</sub> PFCA-related substance having a perfluoro group with the formula C<sub>n</sub>F<sub>2n+1</sub>- that it is not directly attached to another carbon atom, where n = 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 as one of the structural elements, including their salts and any combinations thereof.</li> </ul>	

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